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Contributors

Basingstoke (England). Rural District Council.

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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR 1951.



BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ROTHERWICK.

June 1952.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the year 1951.

STATISTICS.

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| Population | | - | 17.270. | | |
| | | <u>Total</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | |
| Live Births | Legitimate | 212 | 101 | 111 | Birth Rate - 15.9 (Eng. & Wales - 15.5) |
| | Illegitimate | 12 | 4 | 8 | |
| Still Births | | 5 | | | Rate per 1,000 total births - 22. |
| Deaths | | 177 | 98 | 79 | Death Rate - 8.8 (Eng. & Wales - 12.5) |
| Death Rate of infants under one year | | | | | |
| per 1,000 live births | | | 26 | | (Eng. & Wales - 29.6) |
| There were 89 deaths due to heart and arterial diseases. | | | | | |
| 25 | " | " | " | cancer. | |
| 3 | " | " | " | pneumonia. | |
| 8 | " | " | " | suicide and violence. | |
| 1 | " | " | " | tuberculosis. | |

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Scarlet Fever | 9. |
| Pneumonia | 13. |
| Erysipelas | 6. |
| Measles | 206. |
| Whooping Cough | 50. |
| Dysentery - Salmonella .. | 21. |
| Poliomyelitis | 1. |
| Meningococcal infection.. | 1. |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... | 1. |

The amount of infectious disease was much less than the average, except for measles and whooping cough.

An outbreak of food poisoning took place in June, and involved about 300 schoolchildren in this and adjoining districts who ate dinners at school prepared in the school kitchen in the Borough.

The outbreak was due to an organism of the Salmonella group, but investigations failed to establish how it got into the food or which food was involved. The incident shows the importance of a high standard of hygiene among those concerned in handling food at any stage, and the increased risks resulting from the communal feeding arrangements so general today.

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

MEMORANDUM
TO : SAC, NEW YORK
FROM : SAC, WASHINGTON
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

Re New York letter of 1/15/54.

Enclosed for the New York Office are two copies of a letterhead memorandum (LHM) dated and captioned as above.

The LHM was prepared by the Washington Field Office on 1/15/54.

Very truly yours,
[Illegible Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Enclosed for the New York Office are two copies of a letterhead memorandum (LHM) dated and captioned as above.

The LHM was prepared by the Washington Field Office on 1/15/54.

Very truly yours,
[Illegible Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Enclosed for the New York Office are two copies of a letterhead memorandum (LHM) dated and captioned as above.

The LHM was prepared by the Washington Field Office on 1/15/54.

Very truly yours,
[Illegible Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

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[Illegible Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

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The virtual disappearance of Diphtheria, and the diminished seriousness of Scarlet Fever, are noteworthy features of recent years.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year 175 infants received this treatment - 123 school children received reinforcing doses.

WATER.

It is estimated that 50% of the dwelling houses in the district are connected to water mains: standpipes are few.

The Council's scheme for extensions of piped supplies progressed, and before long the district will be pretty well covered.

98 water samples were analysed; 34 were unsatisfactory and in these cases steps were taken to obtain a satisfactory supply.

Samples of all the public supplies have given satisfactory results on analysis.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

New houses completed since 1945:-

| | <u>Total</u> | <u>1951.</u> |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Private buildings - | 126 | 20 |
| Council " - | 243 | 85 |

Number of houses repaired in consequence of informal action (year 1951) - 36.

The shortage of houses remains the most serious social and health problem today.

Moveable Dwellings.

There are 24 licensed caravans occupied in the District. The sanitary condition of the sites is satisfactory.

RIVERS POLLUTION PREVENTION.

Steps were taken to prevent pollution of streams in 17 cases.

SCAVENGING.

The Council possesses two 10 cubic yard Dennis Refuse Collection vehicles and refuse collections are carried out fortnightly throughout the district, with the exception of a few of the smaller parishes where collections are made monthly. Refuse is taken to a controlled tip at Sherborne St. John.

The Council have a Dennis Cesspool Emptying vehicle which continues to meet a real need.

The first of these is the fact that the
percentage of the population which is
employed in the service of the State is
very small.

THE SERVICE OF THE STATE

Under the present system of taxation
the State is able to raise a large
sum of money for its service.

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FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION.

- Bakehouses - Periodical inspections of the 5 bakehouses are made.
- Unsound Food - 368 lbs. of unsound foods were surrendered and condemned during the year.
- Ice Cream - 22 ice cream samples were taken and found satisfactory upon analysis.

Yours faithfully,

M. AVENT,

Medical Officer of Health.



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